



CALIFORNIA GARDEN

❧ Christmas Number ❧

ROCK GARDENS FOR CALIFORNIA
BERRIED AND FLOWERING PLANTS
THE GARDEN
THE LATH HOUSE

DECEMBER, 1927.

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No. 6

Rock Gardens For California

By Prof. H. W. Shepherd.
University of California.
(Courtesy of Pacific Rural Press.)
(Continued)

Pruning.—You will always be pleased to find some "upstart" plant shooting ahead of all others. A sort of a bright pupil in the class is encouraging, nevertheless the day of reckoning does appear. At times this exceptional growth may need to be curbed. This is done by cutting back immediately after the flowering season. If this is not done, some valuable neighboring plant may be lost sight of. New growth is invigorated by judicious pruning.

Soil Maintenance.—It is the general opinion that rock plants do not require manure. All to the contrary notwithstanding, they occasionally need a gentle supply, and none is safer than well rotted, screened cow manure. Just a wee bit, and results will be more satisfactory. Sometimes frequent applications as three times during the growing season will prove best. Bone meal is also helpful when applied three or four times during the season of growth. The majority of alpine are lime loving, therefore lime rocks. Others do best in sandstone, and a few may require special treatment. Some alpine require an acid soil, and for the collector a small quantity of aluminum sulphate may be required to maintain the acidic condition. Possibly a teaspoon of this chemical three times during the year may prove sufficient, depending upon the condition of the irrigation water.

Time to Plant.—The months of September or October and March are the acceptable times. This does not mean that they will not thrive when planted during other months. You don't have to throw a horseshoe over your left shoulder when planting—besides these "slippers" are scarce articles these days.

Care of Alpines.—If you are looking for a plant that requires no care, do not select the alpine. Any plant which bears the bounteous bloom also bears pods alike. Those should be pruned off in summer. Again the soil may need replenishment after a moist season as the present. Seeds should be gathered during the summer as the plants may require replacement, and those which propagate readily by division may be transplanted during this season. Some choice plants may raise their signals of distress in the warm season, and the shelter of a shrub trained for shade or the placement of a rock may insure normal performance. A few alpine do not enjoy rain

during the winter. Furnish these with umbrellas in the form of hot caps.

Pests.—During moist weather the slugs and snails must be controlled. They are ever with us, and seem to enjoy the retreat of the crevices and the choice sites beneath the mats of alpine. The tufted plants, as *Arabis*, *Aubrietia*, and *Dianthus*, should be frequently examined for these pests. Some of the preparations may prove effective, but good, old hand-picking should also become a supplemental practice.

Dry Wall Gardens

Arabia alpina (Rock Cress)—5-6 inches. April and May.

Arenaria balearica—3 inches.

Arenaria caespitosa—1-3 inches (moss-like).

Cerastium tomentosum (Snow in Summer)—6 inches, May-June.

Dianthus deltoides alba—8 inches, May-June.

Iberis sempervirens (White Candytuft)—10 inches, April-May.

Papaver alpinum (Alpine Poppy)—2-4 inches, June-July.

Silene maritima (Catch-fly)—6 inches, May-October.

Silene alpestris (Catch-fly)—4 inches, July-August.

Yellow

Alyssum saxatile compactum (Gold Dust)—1 foot, April-May.

Aquilegia chrysantha (Golden Spurred Columbine)—2-3 feet, May-June.

Cheiranthus alpinus (Lemon yellow)—1 foot, May-June.

Sedum sexangulare—2-3 inches.

Violets (native)—3-4 inches, May.

Pink

Daphne cneorum (Garland Flower)—slow April-May.

Dianthus deltoides (Maiden Pink)—8 inches, May-June.

Dicentra eximia (Bleeding Heart)—1-2 feet, May-June.

Dicentra formosa (Bleeding Heart)—1 foot, May-August. Shady place.

Saponaria ocymoides—6-9 inches. Summer.

Statice caespitosa (Sea Pink)—6-12 inches, Spring.

Tunica saxifraga—6 inches, July-September.

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Blue

- Ajuga reptans—6 inches, May-June.
 Gentiana acaulis—18 inches, August-September.
 Iris cristata (Crested Iris)—4-8 inches, May.
 Linum perenne (Blue Flax)—1 foot, May.
 Myosotis alpestris robusta grandiflora (Forget-me-not)—8 inches, Spring-Summer.
 Nepeta mussini (Lavender Catnip)—6 inches, May-June.
 Primula marginata—3-4 inches, May-June, one of the most beautiful.
 Veronica repens (Creeping Veronica)—2-5 inches, May.

Ferns for Walls

- Asplenium ebum (Ebony Spleenwort)—Shady place.
 Asplenium trichomanes (Dwarf Spleenwort)—3-6 inches, shady place.
 Campptosorus rhizophyllus—Drought resistant.
 Polypodium vulgare—Common Polypody.
 Woodsia elvensis—Exposed rocks.

Other Rock Garden Plants

White

- Arenaria balearica (Sandwort)—12 inches, April-May.
 Aster alpinus albus—6-12 inches, May-June.
 Campanula carpatica alba—5-7 inches, July-August.
 Cerastium tomentosum (Snow-in-Summer)—6 inches, May-June.
 Dianthus caesius—6 inches, May-June.
 Dianthus deltoidea alba—8 inches, May-June.

- Iberis sempervirens—10 inches, April-May.
 Sempervivum in variety.
 Silene maritima fl.-pl.—6 inches, most of the season.
 Thymus serpyllum—3-4 inches, June-July.
 Yucca filamentosa (Adam's Needle)—4-6 feet, June-July.

Yellow Shades

- Alyssum saxatile (Golden Tuft)—1 foot, April-May.
 Helianthemum chamaecistus cupreum—6 inches. All Summer.
 Hypericum calycinum (Aaron's Beard)—1 foot, August.
 Lysemachia nummularia (Moneywort)—2-3 inches, June-July.
 Oenothera missouriensis—10 inches, June-August.
 Ranunculus repens fl.-pl.—1 foot, May-June.
 Saxifraga sibtherpi—4 inches, February-June, all season.
 Sedum acre (Golden Moss)—2-3 inches, May, July.
 Viola gracilis—1 foot, all season.
 Viola (Sutton's Apricot)—6 inches, May-September, all season.

Pink Shades

- Aster alpinus—9 inches, May June.
 Crucinella stylosa (Crosswort)—6-9 inches, June-September.
 Dianthus deltoidea (Maiden Pink)—8 inches, May-June.
 Dicentra formosa (Bleeding Heart)—1 foot, May-August.
 Lychnis alpina—6 inches, April.
 Phlox subulata—3-6 inches, April-May.
 Tunica saxifraga—6 inches, July-September.

Blue Shades

- Ajuga reptans (Bugle Flower)—6 inches, May-June.
 Aubrietia deltoidea (False Wall Cress)—6 inches, April-May.
 Campanula carpatica (Harebell)—5-7 inches, July-August.
 Ceratostigma plumbaginoides (Blue Leadwort)—6-12 inches, August-September.
 Convolvulus mauritanicus (Morocco Convolvulus)—6 inches, June-September.
 Dodecatheon meadia (Shooting Star)—1 foot, May.
 Erigeron glabellus—6-20 inches, June-July.
 Iberis gibraltaria (Hardy Candytuft)—1 foot, May-June
 Iris pumila cyanea—4-8 inches, May.
 Linum perenne—1 foot, May-August.
 Lychnis haageana—1 foot, May-June.
 Myosotis alpestris robusta grandiflora (Forget-me-not)—3 inches, season.
 Salvia pretensis—2 feet. June-July.
 Teucrium canadense (American German-der)—1 foot.
 Thalictrum dipterocarpum (Meadow Rue)—4 feet, August-September.
 Veronica repens—2-4 inches, May.
 Vinca minor (Periwinkle)—3-6 inches, April-May.

Viola cornata (Horned violet)—5-6 inches, July-October.

Red Shades

Anemone pulsatilla—9 inches.

Lotus bertholeti (Coral Gem Trefoli)—1 foot, all season.

Dianthus latifolius atrocoecineus fl. pl. (Sweet William)—10-12 inches, May-June.

Helianthemum chamaecistus — June-September.

Saponaria ocymoides (Rock Soap Fort).

Other Rock Plants

Arenaria balearica—3 inches, creeping, excellent.

Arenaria sedoides—1-2 inches, green moss, very desirable.

Arenaria verna var. *caespitosa*—dense moss-like mass, all summer, excellent.

Caltha palustris (March Marigold)—1-2 feet, yellow, April-June.

Dryas pulchellum—Dwarf Wall Flowers, 2-6 inches, orange, Fall.

Hypericum anagalloides (Tinker's Penny)—6-9 inches, May-July, native.

Lobelia gracilis (Slender Lobelia)—1 foot, decumbent, blue, March-June.

Potentilla nepalensis (Nepal Cinquefoil)—1-2 feet, purple, July-August.

Sisyrinchium bellum (Blue-eyed grass)—12 inches, blue, March-May, native.

Everyone will enjoy selecting plants for the rock garden. The depth of the pocket-book may determine the extent when immediate results are desired. If patience is a cardinal virtue, a few packets of seed may reveal charming results. With all the operations the fascination is progressive, and the experiments in one's own garden may prove to be a delightful experience. Since October is the month this year for planting, plan now for the garden which may be some day a joy forever.

Good Books on Rock Gardening

Rock Gardening for Amateurs, H. H. Thomas, 1914. Cassell and Company, New York.

Garden Making and Keeping, Hugh Findley, 1926. Doubleday, Page and Company, New York.

Rock Gardens, How to Make and Maintain Them, Lewis Merideth, 1922. Williams and Norgate, London, England.

"Ere man is aware
That Spring is here
The flowers have found it out."

—Ancient Chinese Saying.

THE JOSHUA TREE

(American Forests)

The Joshua tree, commonly found in the Mojave desert, is a species of yucca—an ugly cousin to the prized yucca Whipplei. The latter, which has such lovely waxen blooms, is popularly known as the "Spanish Bayonet", and to the Spanish-Americans as the "Candle Stick of Our Lord". The Joshua tree was given its unusual name by Mormon

pioneers, who many years ago crossed the desert and settled in San Bernardino County, California.

The Joshua tree is the least attractive of all trees,—in fact, a regular nightmare of a tree. An author has written of it: "Nothing in the vegetable world is more unprepossessing than this scarecrow, all knees and elbows with handfuls and mouthfuls of daggers".

The young trees have no branches until they reach the height of ten or twelve feet and then send out limbs that resemble clumsy clubs. Great thorns take the place of leaves, and the blooms are a sickly, greenish yellow, never fully opened, and have an unpleasant odor.

The Joshua tree is not useful to the desert, for it casts no shade as does the mesquite or iron wood, nor is it good for firewood or building material like these trees. Its wood is fibrous and spongy. It is not a refuge for bird life as is the fan palm of the desert—it bears nothing in the shape of food for birds, insects or animals. The desert wren builds her nest among its thorns because they protect her young. The woodpecker drills a hole for a home and the elf owl often disposes him—other birds shun this tree.

The Joshua tree has one peculiar use—it is ideal for surgeon's splints. After being soaked in water, it easily conforms to the injured limb where it is bound, and being porous, admits of a circulation of air. As the wood is fibrous and pliable, it is used in the making of artificial limbs.

DECEMBER WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Dean Blake.

December is considered one of the rainy months in San Diego. Precipitation, as a rule, becomes more frequent and is often attended by moderate gales. While 5 or 6 days with rainfall is the average, in some years 12 or 14 days have been recorded. Unless the month is abnormally deficient, the amounts are heavy enough to supplant irrigation.

Nights are colder, and frequent killing frosts take place in the citrus districts back from the coast. Even in the littoral region, light and heavy frosts are by no means uncommon. However, in spite of the cool nights, day temperatures are mild and are never too cold for out-of-door activities or sports.

From past records we learn that the thermometer has gone as high as 84 degrees and as low as 32 degrees during the month at the Weather Bureau office, and that the average maximum temperature is 64 degrees and the minimum 48 degrees. That winds of 30 miles an hour or more are frequent, but that winds over 40 miles per hour are exceedingly uncommon. That December is usually attended by ample sunshine, the average being 73 per cent of the possible.

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BERRIED AND FLOWERING PLANTS Recommended for San Diego County Planting.

By K. O. Sessions.

The Arnold Arboretum located in Jamaica Plains, just outside of Boston, is an experiment station in Arboriculture to horticulturists and landscape architects because of its great collection of hardy trees, shrubs and vines. There are more than 6500 species and varieties, more than 2500 of these have been introduced from other countries and many of them have been collected by E. H. Wilson, the present keeper of the arboretum. Ten conspicuous and outstanding plants from this collection adorn the best gardens of America. They are *Clematis paniculatum* introduced in 1877; *Cotoneaster songarica* of 1910; the spring cherry of Japan; *Prunus subbustella* of 1894; Bush Honeysuckle, *Lonicera Korolkouri* of 1881; Regal Lily 1910; Arnold Crab, *Malus Arnoldiana*; the purple Korean, *Azalea poukhanensis* 1905; Wilson's pearbush, *Exochordia Wilsoni*; the salmon red *Azalea Kampferi* 1892; *Berberis thunbergia*.

Of these ten plants selected by Mr. E. H. Wilson in the December number of the Garden and Homebuilders Magazine, only two are to be found in our San Diego gardens, the *Clematis paniculatum* and the Regal Lily and why? Because the others all flourish in the climate of Boston and the greater part of the U. S. A. However, San Diego County can grow each one of them in her mountain sections from Ramona to Julian to Palomar. Some day the inland and mountain hotel resorts will wake up to the fact that gardens of certain shrubs will bring as many or more patrons than their good table and hotel comforts. The California population of the future will be eager to enjoy the plants of colder climates and an acre of lilac, another of peonies, an avenue of berberis and crab and cherry blossoms just mentioned will be a feature to be enjoyed more and more each year. San Diego's mountainous climate is a horticultural asset of great value that is now unnoticed.

Mrs. Amy Strong of Ramona, on her Mt. Woodson estate, has made a beginning in her selection of plants that proves the truth of the above facts in a surprising way. Her plantings less than two years old show not only a fine growth but a superior quality; her bushes of English and Dutch holly are brilliant with their red berries. Her small High Bush Cranberry plants are husky and give much promise; her collection of cotoneasters (seven varieties) and the berried hawthornes (three varieties) are all well berried. Her *Nandina* shrubs are glorious in foliage and berry and the two *Camellia japonica* will surely become a choice asset. Mrs. Daly has lately located in Ramona and the develop-

ment of her eight acres will be another fine example of what can be grown in that locality. Without doubt she will be supplying San Diego florists with many a berried branch and flower-laden bough that would be a credit to the Arnold Arboretum.

KENTIA PALMS.

Kentia Palms in California, by O. F. Cook, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is a most interesting and instructive article appearing in the September number of the Journal of Heredity. The article is generously illustrated, the photos were all taken in San Diego, Coronado and National City. This locality is shown to be the best thus far on the Pacific Coast for the Kentias, *Belmoreaniana* and *Fosteriana*. They are natives of the small Lord Howe island of Lat. 32° S. and longitude 159° E., five hundred miles from Sidney, Australia, towards Norfolk Island. They were discovered in 1869 and the sole business of the Island is the gathering of palm seed which is sold all over the world in centers where these palms are grown for their decorative value. San Diego can well afford to continue planting these palms more generously as their value as a thermometer of our mild winters and heatless summers is very great horticulturally, and the traveling public realizes that plants do tell the truth about a climate. Being an island plant the coast is better than an inland location.

Mr. Cook writes: "To find that we can grow and see about us one of the most beautiful palms in the world should seem as interesting and important as the discovery of gold mines or oil wells. The beauty of the palms is a satisfaction and enrichment of life."

These palms not only grow here but they produce seeds and in time we can anticipate our own supply. At Lord Howe's Island a plague of rats is seriously reducing the crop of seed. A shipment of California barn owls was furnished to the Australian government to serve as rat catchers.

Our *Erythea Edulis* or Guadalupe fan likewise is a success locally here while in the interior it does not produce seed. The *Erythea Brandegei* from the highlands of Cape St. Lucas also will do better here than in the interior but it requires heat as well as the coast air and is bearing seed in Honolulu today but in Southern California plants of the same age have never blossomed.

The equipment for growing Kentia Palms represents an investment of several millions and palms grown for the interior decoration are dead in a few years so the supply must be continually kept up.

(Continued on page 7)

The Dec. and Jan. Gardens

BIRDS AND FLOWERS

By Ada Perry.
(San Diego Union)

"Don't you go to picking that wild holly." An old gentleman rode up on horseback from somewhere, sounding determined in his advice.

We had crossed Mission Valley in the afternoon and climbed to the huge brown table of Linda Vista mesa. Down in the early dusk of a canyoncita glowed a few fine bushes of the Toyon berries the rider was warning us not to break. We protested that we were good Californians and that there was plenty of Toyon on our own place. But Mr. Somebody did not absorb any excuses. He said we'd be fined if any was taken and rode off as suddenly as he appeared. That parting threat was no idle one.

"Any person, firm or corporation who shall wilfully or negligently mutilate, cut or destroy any Toyon or Christmas red berry or cut any Christmas tree or trees growing on public land or land not his own, without a written permit from the owner of the land, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500."

That is the essence of section 384 of the state penal code. Furthermore the traffic officer or warden or forester who catches you will confiscate the stolen branches.

"Or cut any Christmas tree or trees," is a phrase that must be singled out and held up for emphasis. It means business and is new, having been added when Section 384a was amended last May. Baby trees are precious enough to the state to be considered before the Christmas celebrations of its citizens. The term Christmas tree in this law "shall include any evergreen tree or part thereof cut and removed from the place where grown without the foliage having been removed."

The tree amendment tightened the Toyon clause by adding the words "cut or destroy" or "to mutilate."

Robert R. McLean, county horticultural commissioner, believes that protection of the young trees from heedlessly swung Yuletide axes is very needful. The Toyon clause, he says, is greatly improved. There seems to be nothing left to do about Christmas decorations but just look and keep hands off.

But why not obtain a few Toyon seeds in an inoffensive way and plant them? John McLaren, for years superintendent of Golden Gate Park, gives directions for planting them in his book, which is an authority on "Gar-

(Continued on page 9)

LAWNS AND GARDENS

By Walter Birch.

With the increasingly cool weather, the average old lawn is a silent witness to the fact that the sod thereof is largely composed of devil grass. The long runners are more in evidence, the sod is off color and the lawn generally is anything but "a thing of beauty!"

Well, short of digging the law up the only way to handle the situation is to thoroughly rake the ground with a Bermuda Grass rake, which cuts off the runners and leaves the surface sufficiently scarified to make a seed bed of sorts. Apply a dressing of good commercial fertilizer or pulverized sheep manure and sow some good White Clover seed at the rate of half a pound to three hundred square feet and with the usual cutting and watering your lawn will look pretty well for another year. The only alternative is to thoroughly spade up two or three times, remove every runner and root, let ground stand for a month or two and then seed down with the best grade of Kentucky Blue Grass and White Clover in the proportion of one pound of seed to one hundred and fifty square feet of surface, using seventy-five per cent Blue Grass and twenty-five per cent Clover.

Be sure to fertilize and water properly if you want a satisfactory lawn, otherwise your lawn will be a source of worry instead of pleasure.

Bent Grass lawns seem to be attracting more attention all the time, and are no doubt satisfactory where they get the attention they require. However, a number of people in and around San Diego seem to have got the impression that it is much easier to get and keep a good lawn by having a bent grass lawn in preference to a blue grass and clover lawn. It is undoubtedly true that they will get a quicker lawn, but to keep it up as a good lawn, it will need more water, more fertilizer and more cutting.

But whichever kind of lawn you decide to have, do not flatter yourself that it is economy to have anything but a strictly first class job, done by some one who "knows how," otherwise you will be grievously disappointed.

In the vegetable garden this month you may set out Asparagus and Rhubarb Roots, the Mary Washington blight resistant asparagus is the best, be sure and have ground well manured. Spread the roots as naturally as possible planting about eight inches deep and about one foot apart in rows three feet apart.

(Continued on page 11)

The California Garden

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R. R. McLean
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TOYON AND EVERGREEN LAWS

Attention is called to an article appearing in this number of the Garden by Ada Perry, who conducts each week in the Sunday Union a column under the heading, Birds and Flowers. Miss Perry's articles are always instructive, timely and full of interest. She is a comparatively new writer and much may be expected of her in floricultural and avicultural lines in years to come.

In connection with the subject matter of the article above referred to, that of protection the State Law now gives our native Toyon and evergreens that may be classed as Christmas trees, complaint is sometimes made that laws are being enacted faster than we can assimilate them and that we are already over-burdened with laws covering every conceivable subject. The only answer that can be made to this more or less reasonable complaint is that there can be no liberty without law and that as our relations to our neighbors and society in general, that is, the State, are undergoing constant modifications by reason of constantly changing conditions, new laws must necessarily be enacted to meet emergencies that are bound to arise. Can anyone conceive, for instance, of a state of affairs more nearly approaching anarchy than to be without adequate laws covering every phase of motor vehicle transportation and operation? Yet 30 years ago there were no

such laws nor were they necessary. Few if any laws now regulate the operation of aeroplanes yet judging by past experience the next 20 years will see a multitude of necessary regulations governing this coming form of transportation.

Ten or fifteen years ago our native trees and plants growing in out of the way places were comparatively safe from spoilation because by reason of poor roads and lack of transportation they were more or less inaccessible. Now when the population has doubled and trebled and every family has one or more automobiles and our back country roads, even to the high mountains and deserts, are highly improved, nothing in the way of plant life is safe from the passing fancy of the Sunday motorist. Without adequate laws to meet this changed condition, our holly and evergreens would sooner or later meet the fate of the dodo, whatever that is, or was.

ROSECROFT BEGONIA CATALOG

The former and long-time editor of the Garden, Mr. A. D. Robinson, once referred to nursery catalogs as fictional works of nurserymen and seed houses. He himself has now fallen by the wayside and offers for perusal the Rosecroft Begonia Gardens Tuber and Seed list for 1928. The only extenuating circumstance, however, is that he confines himself strictly to a definite statement of what he has to offer, and its price, without indulging in panegyrics, although he might easily be forgiven for this under the circumstances. Those of us who have been fortunate enough to see Mr. Robinson's begonias would certainly approve any glowing descriptions he might give of these wonderful plants. It is doubtful if they could be adequately described, even if he were so minded.

San Diego may well be proud of Rosecroft Begonia Gardens. They belong to San Diego as well as to Mr. Robinson. Competent authorities have stated that they are without a peer in this country.

ANNUAL EXHIBIT OF BERRIED SHRUBS AND WREATHS

The Second Annual Exhibit and Sale of Christmas Wreaths and Greens will be held in the Floral Building, Balboa Park, on the afternoon of Monday, December nineteenth, from two until five thirty. The members of the Association and the public are invited to bring in wreaths and sprays for exhibit and later for sale for the benefit of the library fund. Ribbons will be awarded to the best examples of the various methods of using Christmas greens and berries for the decoration of our homes and business houses during the holiday season.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

Last year the first show of this kind was offered to the people of San Diego, and it met with a most decided success. It is the hope of the committee in charge that this year even more material will be brought in, and that the members and friends of the society will plan to make their purchases of Christmas Greens at this time.

The real purpose of holding this exhibit and sale is to discourage the ruthless gathering of the California Holly, (*Toyon* or *heteromeles arbutifolia*). It is now illegal to gather th's on public land, or on private property without the consent of the owner; but there is a lot of it being picked and offered for sale in San Diego. The Association is working hard to protect the bushes that remain, and to show at its Annual Sale what may be done with our other more plentiful greens and berries.

At three o'clock there will be a short talk on the conservation of native flowers and shrubs, and at four tea will be served.

BARBERRIES

The November California Garden's article on "Handsome Berried Shrubs" listed many of the Barberry, the varieties of the Barberry which are particularly fine, but as yet only one of those many Barberries is to be found in our gardens of San Diego, although many have been planted. Our climate is not conducive to them. *Berberis Wilsonii* is growing fairly well in a certain position in heavy shade exposed to the steady wind from the ocean. There is a group on Coronado, and in Mrs. C. C. Ramsey's garden on Sea Lane in La Jolla. In Portland, Oregon and at Eureka, Calif., this particular variety is completely covered with its berries, an almost transparent pinkish white berry close to the branch its entire length, often two feet long. Many of the Barberries are a success in San Francisco and north along the entire Pacific Coast.

K. O. SESSIONS.

BIRD HOUSES SHOULD BE BUILT IN FALL

(American Forests)

Because our native song birds have an extremely acute sense of smell and will refuse to nest in any house that has not had time to weather, bird houses should be built in the fall. If the houses are put out in the spring before the birds arrive from the South, they will be driven away by fresh paint or even the lingering odor of human hands. If the houses have had an opportunity to weather throughout the winter, the songsters will be attracted to them.

Birds around the garden or grounds of a home add materially in keeping down insect pests. A number of bird houses properly seasoned and constructed to attract the songsters will make the grounds a bird sanctuary.

KENTIA PALMS

(Continued from page 4)

On the hills above Pacific Beach, Lans Bros. have five acres of *Kentias* growing beneath lath and now have a very fine stock of plants in carload lots ready for shipment into our back country, the great U. S. A. Two large truck loads were used by the new Cortez Hotel in San Diego and several stores have appreciated their quality and beauty for holiday decorations.

These palms that are to be grown in our gardens and in parking spaces must be grown by the nurseries in the open and not beneath lath. The oldest plant here is in the Coronado Hotel Court. A very fine pair are at the southwest corner of Second and Spruce and there are several on Fourth street, above Walnut, also on the north and east side of the California building in Balboa Park, the large plants were moved from inside the glass house a few years ago.

Mr. Cook notes that the variety *Fosteriana* is placed in the genus *Dena* but *Belmoreana* is a true *Kentia*. The *Fosteriana* grows faster than *Belmoreana* which does better with some shade.

K. O. SESSIONS.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The last regular meeting of the Floral Association for the year 1927, was held in the Floral Building November 1. Mrs. Greer, the president called the meeting to order, after which she announced a sale of berried shrubs and wreaths to be held the nineteenth of December. She then introduced Mr. Blachvan, an old member and former president of the Association, who said a few words to the members.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. A. D. Robinson, who needed no introduction and had for his subject, "Some Other Holiday Plants." In his usual entertaining manner Mr. Robinson explained the reason for his choice of title and gave a most interesting talk on *Begonia* and other plants, which might by judicious cuttings and restraint be at their prime for the holiday season. He illustrated his talk with beautiful potted specimens which were afterwards sold and the proceeds turned over to the Association for stoves for the hall.

The meeting adjourned and enjoyed refreshments served by the house committee.

W. SINCLAIR, Secretary.

Complete files of the California Garden may be obtained from the Secretary, Miss Winifred Sinclair, 3335 Goldsmith St., at reasonable prices.

A FEW HIGHLY DESIRABLE, YET LITTLE KNOWN PLANTS FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GARDENS.

By Peter D. Barnhart.

The keen interest that is shown by Gardeners—especially the class known as Amateur—in rare plants, which are new to them, when on display at Flower Shows, is the inspiration of this article.

I venture to say that it is the Amateur in the art of gardening who is leading the way in which nurserymen of this Southland should walk, if the country is to become a Botanic Garden, in the broadest and the best sense of the term. The land of all lands to which plant enthusiasts will wend their way, as the Moslem does to Mecca. Nurserymen grow things for profit; amateur plant enthusiasts grow them for pleasure, and make the life of the plantman miserable, when he fails to supply their wants—the desire of their hearts; Rare Plants.

I shall first call attention to a low shrub; not new by any means, but all too little known. Indeed few gardeners know it, and the few nurserymen who grow it do so under an erroneous name. Right now, and for the next three months it is clothed with a mantle of gold; a veritable scene of golden glory. A native of India, Florida climate does not seem congenial to it, yet it luxuriates in the glorious climate of this Southland. *Reinwardtia trigyna*. is the proper name of this gem, nurserymen label it *Linum flavum*. Both belong to the same tribe, but to different families, and from different countries. The latter, a native of Austria.

The next plant for consideration at this time is a native of Brazil, also a winter bloomer, and very spectacular, because of the very large flowers, rose purple colored, and borne in the greatest profusion. Its name is *Ruellia macrantha*. Wood ashes applied to it heightens the color of the flowers, and dairy manure adds vigor to the plant. A gross feeder it must be liberally fertilized to show its magnificent character.

Turraea obtusifolia, a native of South Africa, from whence we have many gems of the floral kingdom, is a low growing, evergreen shrub, wearing a mantle of pure white the last half of the year. Certainly it should be included in every base planting list when the foundation of buildings is to be hidden from view. It will stand pruning without injury. When I say pruning, I don't mean shearing; one of the abominations of gardening. A plant sheared into shape, no matter what the form; globe, pyramidal, or any other travesty on nature, is an indication of perverted taste on the part of the man who does it.

Frequently in Landscape work unsightly objects, which may be necessities around the home, must be hidden from view, if the place

is to appear neat. English Ivy—*Hedera Helix*—is more frequently used than any other plant. When exposed to full sun, the foliage is apt to burn, disfiguring it. A much more excellent subject for such work is *Ephedra altissima*, a native of North Africa. The darkest green of all plants grown in this country. It is scandent. That is, it does not twine, neither has it tendrils, like the grape nor adventitious roots like the ivy, neither has it leaves in the sense that that word is used, but believe me, when I say, that for a dark green, dense growing, drouth resistant subject, it has few equals, and no superiors.

One of the glories of cold climates, which we lack in this land of but two seasons—Spring and Summer—is the brilliant Autumn colors.

Australia has given us a shrub of considerable size to fill that defect, and brighten the landscape with its scarlet glow. While not exactly an evergreen, it does hold its foliage during the Spring, or rainy season. The leaves are heart shaped, on long petioles, and abundant. It belongs to the same tribe as the Castor bean, though of a different family. Its present name is *Homalanthus populifolium*. Before this change in nomenclature was made, we grew it under the name, *Carumbium populifolium*. What a time I did have tracing the subject to its place in Cyclopedias. I wonder whether the time ever will arrive when we shall have a stabilized nomenclature for the plants we grow.

Syria has given us a small tree, which may be kept low by pruning, that is pretty in its crimson coat during our rainy season. It, too, will stand a lot of drouth, indeed it is much more beautiful when kept dry, than if watered freely during the summer months. Every gardener will admit that that is one of the desirable qualities of plant life for Southern California. Water is scarce and expensive, and the cost of its application even more so.

The name of this shrub or tree as the case may be is *Pistacia vera*, the tree which produces the *Pistacia* nut of commerce. They are used to give candy its green color. For some reason, unknown to this writer, they never produce seeds in this Southland.

Liquidamber styraciflua; wearing the common name, Sweet Gum, a native of the Atlantic coast, has proven its value as a decorative tree because of the glow of its foliage at this season of the year. It is deciduous, and for that reason should have a place on the south side of a home, when a dense shade is desirable during our sunny summer months, and leafless during our rainy season, when the warmth of the sun is appreciated. Any way a deciduous tree that will adapt itself to our climatic conditions, gives us a pleasing contrast to the evergreens, when they put on their new and beautiful clothes, when the warm days of summer return.

(To be continued)

BIRDS AND FLOWERS

(Continued from page 5)

dening in California." The seeds are merely planted as soon as ripe in a slightly shaded outdoor bed composed of soil, leaf mould and sand.

Another authority, John Morley, superintendent of our own Balboa Park, describes propagating them in pots. Later in the year than this, when the berries are thoroughly ripe, they are thrown in a heap and allowed to "sweat" a little. Then two-inch pots are planted to several seeds apiece. Mr. Morley says that Toyon roots can be dug up and divided and every piece will grow, but transplanting the seedlings, without loosing a big percentage, requires a care.

Those who have never seen Toyon have only to search vacant land now for a fine crimson berried bush. The limbs are strong, the leaves are narrow, long and serrated. The whole plant is graceful and always an aristocrat in appearance, whether it is growing in a tin can dump or a beautiful fold in the landscape. The berries are preceded by chunky clusters of little sticky white blossoms. Plenty of room seems to be the demand of these splendid shrubs. They are usually well scattered.

Heteromeles (accent on the "o") arbutifolia is the identifying name of the Toyon. It is of the Genera Rosaceae which also includes the rose tribe and is about six pages apart from the holly in Bailey's plant encyclopedia. California holly is a nickname suggested by the serrated edges of the leaves. The resemblance is not really close.

As for the Christmas trees, many folks have found that the "living tree" policy is more beautifully appropriate than going into the woods and making an end to a young tree. They choose an evergreen tree in a can or balled at a nursery and take it home and set it up for tinsel and presents. After serving such a lovely purpose it is planted out in the yard. Some put theirs in a convenient place to have the whole ceremony outdoors the following years. Others plan a collection to add to each year.

Cypress pines of various sorts, fancy cedars, arbor vitae auracarias, the acacia verticillata, which resembles conifers, and spruces, comprise a big list of conifers for living Christmas trees. And if it does not have to be an evergreen, any novel trees on which to hang presents can be used.

* * *

The rose show sponsored by the San Diego Rose Society was the latest on the coast. What good civics, if every year the final boom from the coast bombardment of rose shows could come from San Diego.

The club that sponsored the show is not quite a year old. Forrest L. Hiatt is the president. He had been growing roses in San Diego since 1913. The society is anxious to have the membership increase to 500 rose lovers and cranks. The outline of their meetings for the first quarter of the new year is very interesting.

In January pruning will be gone into, in February feeding and fertilizing, in March destruction of pests, and in April the arrangement of rose blooms. The subjects are timed just right.

The San Diego Rose Society is a unit of the American Rose Society, the largest horticultural organization in the world. Yearly dues of \$3.50 include a membership in both and a copy of the rose annual issued by the parent society.

* * *

Scattering food for wild birds is a duty in a cold country. In San Diego it is play. Of course, daily manna for the birds is invaluable if one wishes to study them.

There are many women in town who spread a daily table for our not needy bird citizens. The good ladies do it for mutual pleasure. A clean place is chosen which cats cannot sneak into and birds visit it in troops. The migrants learn about the free lunch soon after their arrival, and, coming, bring a good many facts in natural history to be read like Indian signs by the watcher.

A woman in Escondido puts out straight canary seed and attracts vireos, orioles and two Wilson thrushes. Thrushes are the high sign of approval, for they are very shy. The daintier birds like the fancy seed. Coarser food like hemp draws a sturdy crew of mockers, finches and blackbirds. And, by the way, a hundred blackbirds will sit and cool there until "Mike" gets his dinner. He'll hold them off for his friends, too.

THE BLUE CAMASSIA

A pretty-flowered bulbous plant that may be grown in the herbaceous border is *Camassia esculenta*. It blooms round about midsummer, the colour being mauve-blue. The individual blossoms are star-shaped, carried on a raceme, and the stems rise quite 18 inches in height. A light soil suits this plant best, and the bulbs should be planted in fair sized groups for effect; now is a good time to get them in. They may remain several years before being lifted for dividing. Do not plant closer than 6 inches, and a suitable depth is 3 inches. There is a white variety, and in addition there are several other sorts, which, however, with the exception of *Cusickii*, are not so often seen. This kind is taller than *esculenta*, often reaching 3 feet while the flowers are pale blue or lavender.

—B. A.

A GARDEN OF THE SAINTS

By Mrs. Stanley Wrench.
(Gardening Illustrated.)

Well, and why not? We have friendship gardens, blue gardens, moonlight gardens, wild flower gardens, so why should not all the blossoms associated with the Saints be gathered together in one corner, with the legends and lore connected with them?

I thought of this the other day when my small daughter and I planted corms of St. Brigid's Anemones, for a plant of St. John's Wort was flourishing as well as a root of Shamrock sacred to St. Patrick. In the wall was a tiny reddish-leaved plant, Herb Robert, or Wild Geranium, and although some folks say this flower was christened after Robin Hood, I am inclined to believe it is from St. Robert, after all, it gets its name, the Saint who cured the disease known in Germany as Robert's Plague. For he cured it with the flower known in France as "Robin des bois," in Germany "Knecht Ruprecht," a sort of Robin Goodfellow. It is easy to understand why this tiny cheerful blossom has been linked up with goblin and woodland lore as well as its patron saint.

Nearly all the saints in the calendar may be represented in the garden if one takes the trouble, and so many delightful stories are connected with them it is well worth while. Think of those rainbow-coloured blossoms, St. Brigid's Anemones, and the story of St. Brigid of the Isles. Legend relates that she was the foster-nurse of Christ. Immediately, then, one recalls the flowers of Our Lady—Marigolds, or, as I like them better, Marybuds; Madonna Lilies, Lady's Smock, Lady's Mantle, Lady's Slipper, Clematis, or Virgin's Bower, Rosemary, Our Lady's Bedstraw, and almost a score besides. An old gardener told me the other day, that Solomon's Seal is also called Our Lady's Signet, so that must be one of Mary's flowers, too.

Michaelmas Daisies are the flowers of St. Michael, the Rose the blossom of St. George of Merrie England, St. Patrick and St. David have their plants, although for the latter the Daffodil is now given place of honour to the Leek, and St. Andrew has the Thistle, of which we find varieties worth growing in a garden. The Sea Thistle, for instance, with its blue-grey foliage, so beloved in the herbaceous border, will represent the patron saint of Scotland.

How many people know that the Crocus is the flower dedicated to St. Valentine, the common Laurel to St. Lucian (January 8th), the Strawberry to St. Hilary (January 13th), and the Avena or Herb Bennett to St. Benedict, whose anniversary falls on March 21st? The delicate flowers of the Christmas Rose belong to St. Agnes, although Tennyson associated her with "the first Snowdrop of the year," and St. John's Wort (magical golden

blossom) is the flower dedicated to St. John the Baptist, whose day is June 24th. A whole host of legends and superstitions have grown up concerning this plant, and I have always been delighted to find it will grow in my garden, for they say, in Sussex (if you have this near you that "never will you lack health, healing, and happiness.")

St. Genevieve, patroness of all flowers, has that most lovable blossom, the Iris, as her emblem; St. Peter claims the Cowslip, which the Germans call Heaven's Little Keys (Himmelschlüsselchen). The story goes that one day St. Peter, up in heaven, got very flurried and flustered because he found that some people were getting into heaven by a back way instead of coming to be admitted at his great golden portal. In his excitement he dropped his keys, and where they fell a patch of golden Cowslips appeared. In Norsk the country folk call Cowslips "Mary's key-strings."

St. Joseph has a Lily associated with his name, the Amaryllis goes to St. James, whilst the lightsome Harebell is allotted to St. Dominic. Canterbury Bells belong, of course, to Thomas à Beckett, and the saintly William of Rochestér has the Sweet Williams for his own.

The Camomile, with all its healing virtues, is the flower of St. Anne, "Love in a Mist," or Nigella, is St. Catharine's blossom, the Daisy is sacred to St. Margaret (July 20th), and the ordinary Royal Fern is dedicated to St. Christopher. The Crown Imperial, whose calyx always holds crystal tears, which bees are said never to touch, is the flower dedicated to St. Edward, King of the West Saxons. Legend says this flower grew by the tomb of Lazarus, and that when our Lord wept, His tears fell upon it, and that the blossom has ever since guarded jealously the drops. But there is quite another story told about the flower. It is said that when Christ came into the Garden of Gethsemane all the flowers in the garden bowed their heads except the proud Crown Imperial, which held aloft its white cup with its crown of green leaves. Christ rebuked it for its vain glory, and the flower then blushed red and hung its head with shame, tears gathered in its eyes, and the tears have remained ever since.

One might wander on and on, to the Juniper, blessed by the Virgin Mary because of the protection it afforded the Holy Family on their way to Egypt, and to the Broom which she cursed, hence its place of "ill luck" in a garden. Sussex people say that if there are children in the house the Broom must never grow in the garden, and I will remember an old gardener uprooting in horror a most lovable bush of golden Broom which I had planted. "Do you want to bring death into the house?" he cried, and although I could not then find out why it is regarded with such superstitious awe, I believe the legend harks back to the story told

of the Holy Family and their escape into Egypt. It is said that when Herod's horsemen pursued them, Mary and the Holy Babe hid in a Juniper bush, the thick branches concealing them. All around grew golden Gorse, and the Gorse pods kept bursting open and popping, and wild peacocks screamed, too, and woke the Child, who cried. So, in fear of being discovered by the soldiers, Mary cursed both Broom and peacocks, and that is why they have been unlucky ever since.

In a saint's garden there should be the Hawthorn growing, since it was this bush yielded the pilgrim staff of St. Joseph of Arimathea, the Lily of the Valley, sacred to St. Leonard, who gave his name to St. Leonard's Forest in Sussex, the Star of Bethlehem, associated with the Holy Shepherds, the Veronica or small Speedwell, the flower of St. Veronica, who handed her kerchief to our Lord, the markings on the bright blue blossoms being said to represent that same handkerchief and its marks, and I think I should most surely plant the Lilac there, for that blossom was chosen by the pilgrim women of Puritan days when they left in the "May-flower," to remind them of the homely gardens they had left behind. It is Oriental by birth, but I always feel it has a saint somewhere to its name.

The making of a garden of this kind is particularly interesting, especially if the children help you with its fashioning, for as one legend or bit of quaint superstition falls to your share, connected with the blossom or shrub planted, there are bound to be others. So you go on until making a garden becomes a pastime with as many aspects as a seven-pointed star.

"A garden is a lovesome thing," but quite how lovesome one never knows until garden legends and superstitions are unearthed, and one way of doing this is to make a real living, glowing Garden of the Saints.

LAWNS AND GARDENS

(Continued from page 5)

Strawberry plants can also be set out now for spring and summer bearing. The Giant Mastodon variety is now one of the most talked of. It is an everbearer of very large size and a big producer. The Oregon Plum is also a good one, having flavor of the New England wild Strawberry and does not need any sugar.

Artichoke plants can also be set out this month. They make handsome plants if set in a row by themselves and will produce next summer.

Continue planting all the hardy vegetables.

In the flower garden it is just lily planting time again, the Easter lily, Auratum or Gold Banded and the Rubrum Lily bulbs are all ready for planting now.

Lilies like an easily worked rich and well

drained soil and should be planted about eight inches deep. A protected and slightly shaded location is ideal for them.

It is still good time to plant tulips and narcissus, both very much worth while, particularly the latter.

Anemones and ranunculus are also in season for some time yet.

While gladioli bulbs are planted in San Diego practically all the year round, the best planting season is from the middle of January until the beginning of June. Plant during the early winter months, except possibly in light warm well drained soil, is only taking an unnecessary risk with your bulbs and then not being any further ahead than bulbs planted in middle or end of January. So why take the risk?

Keep on planting and seeding perennials and annuals, the seeds will be helped at this time of year by supplying a little bottom heat or setting your seed boxes in a warm location.

For best results finish setting out your Cineraria plants this month, there are some very fine varieties to be had this season.

HOW TO PRESERVE FLOWERS

In Their Natural Colours

The preservation of flowers in their natural form is not a very difficult matter. To preserve their colours is not so easy. However, if the following instructions are carried out, the novice should be able to do the work. The hints must be carried out to the letter. The sand process is fairly well known. It consists of placing the flowers in airtight boxes of sand and allowing them to dry slowly. Boxes of a suitable depth to take flowers are obtained and fine quality silver sand and some cotton wool, complete the appliances. The flowers to be treated must be dry and not full blown.

The Sand Process

Place a layer of sand (about an inch) on the bottom of the box. On top of this arrange a layer of flowers in a natural manner. Cotton wool and sand are used to pack the petals and leaves in the proper position. Each layer of flowers is gently covered with silver sand until the box is filled.

The box is then put away in a room of even temperature for about a month, after which time the flowers are examined. If any mould is noticed the whole may have to be thrown away. If the instructions have been carried out the flowers will be dry and in most instances the colour will have been preserved. As the flowers are very brittle, they must be handled with care. The best plan is to make shallow boxes of suitable sizes with glass covers put over to protect from dust. Instead of the silver sand box-wood sawdust may be used. This is difficult to obtain in some districts. The practice of put-

(Continued on page 13)

LATH HOUSE MATTERS

By Alfred D. Robinson.

There is a Providence, a kind of one any way, for here have I been lamenting to every one who would listen for a month or more, that I wished I knew how to get some real garden information about the climate and habits of some of the places where a lot of my plants had their native heaths, so to speak, and I had in mind more than anywhere else, South Africa. I did not want a Chamber of Commerce report that would give me the temperature from the top of a steam heated building and enthuse about a rainfall surplus that had evaporated long since, what I wanted was a source of information that I could corner and ask pertinent perhaps impertinent questions. Well, last week came two lady visitors right from South Africa, one had been born there, and that was sort of news that any one of fair complexion had done this stunt, and the other had lived there seven years and both liked plants, knew them and had grown them.

I asked those ladies a few of the million questions that I have since thought of and their answers are to be the foundation of this month's article and doubtless will form a great relief from the endless reiteration of matter based on Point Loma experience.

South Africa seems to be divided into two basic zones, where you drink and where you don't, the Bush and the veldt, there may be others, but they don't enter into common conversation. Members of the Floral Association will remember a lecture on New Zealand Flora with slides left to the imagination because the electric light fuses blew, in which "the Bush" continually occurred properly pronounced by the way, an impossible feat for any one born in a dry climate, it sounds as if it should be spelt with two Us and three Ss, and convey a wealth of affection.

The Buusssh appears to be a terrain like our western chaparral, is Africa before the subdivider gets at her, it has more trees perhaps and a rainfall of possibly thirty inches. There is a definite rainy and dry season and generally very heavy dews.

The veldt with the rains becomes a carpet of flowers and then later a dry desert. Among the flowers from this are our veldt daisy, *Dimorpotheca*, and *Nemesia* generally associated with the name of Suttons the seed house of England, and one of these ladies sent Suttons the first seed of *Nemesia*.

It is in the Bush that our lath house plants grow. *Saintpaulia* that is causing so much trouble to make it happy and then being perfectly miserable all the time, grows out of cracks in the rocks like many of our native ferns, usually in very damp places and mak-

ing large clumps that catch leaf mould, etc. Its blooming season is late September and early October, the Spring there. It is recommended to the notice of rock gardens enthusiasts for trial. It would seem possible that the office of the rock might be to maintain a coolness at the roots impossible with pot culture and the narrow cracks would keep the crowns dry, one of the troubles of culture here is the tendency to damp off at the crown.

The *Streptocarpus* grow quite freely along the roadsides, the color is a fairly deep blue, all the other colors have been obtained by cultivation and there are now white, pink, red, lavender and many shades between, as I know no yellow, which is funny, as this is a primrose. They also bloom at the same time of year and I notice that a lot of mine though their general blooming period is in the spring, seem to have a stirring of old habit and are throwing occasional surprise blooms now. It might be well to state that I have parked mine for the winter where they will get plenty of sun and air and all the rain and I shall not allow them to dry up. Cultural directions for this plant as given out in green house guides state, that it is perennial but better plants can be had by raising from seed each year. With me I have never had a good plant till the second year. Speaking of plants retaining the calendar habit as opposed to the seasonal habit of their native state. I asked this South African lady about *Asparagus Crispa*, a native of Africa, that with us grows in the winter and goes dormant in the summer, she says that at home it grows in the summer and is dormant in their winter, it come up in the Bush.

Many *Begonias* were familiar to the visitors and some of them appear to be native there in South Africa, one being the semi-tuberous *McBethii*.

I have so long talked about US as the *Begonia Elysian Fields* that I was almost shocked to hear that *Rexes* are propagated by shoving a leaf into the leaf mold and putting a stone on it, that seedlings come up like grass under the *Rubra* type and that the South African was frankly amazed that we grew *Begonias* under a lath shelter instead of in the open garden. We scored, however, when *Strelitzia Regina* was hailed as a novelty, though *Nicoli* was well known.

One of the ladies spoke of visiting a valley where the *Candelabra Agave* grew in shades of red, orange, pink and yellow. I trust that this notice will not send our K. O. S. posting off to South Africa, at least before I have arranged to have her meet these ladies and learn a bit about the route, as this Veldt and Bush are some territory.

The Flowering trees of South Africa were

given the palm over the flowers and it was a big aggravating to have nothing but glowing colorful descriptions and native names to go upon. Our *Leonotis* was almost embraced, it is the State or National flower, I don't know what they are down there.

I am just existing in hopes till I can get these ladies and K. O. Sessions' wonderful illustrated book on South African Flora together and a Bible of course, perhaps a stack of them, so I can administer an oath to send me seed.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

A Series of Letters by Stephen Child. Published by Stanford University Press, Stanford University, California, 1927.

The author has seen fit to approach the many problems that confront the landscape architect in the same way that the modern student of law approaches legal problems—by the study of actual cases. The case system, however, is far easier to put into book form in law than in landscape architecture. Such a method of presenting typical cases of landscape design depends to a very great extent on what in law would be known as Exhibits; i. e., maps, plans, and drawings of the original sight as well as of the plans for development. Unfortunately the majority of Mr. Child's Exhibits are very far from clear; and the lack of clarity is not greatly helped by his written description. Especially in the earlier chapters, it is very difficult to visualize the property either before or after the improvements are made. Undoubtedly, if we could be on the ground, Mr. Child's treatment of the property would seem right in principle and practice; but most of the chapters are more than hazy—even to the careful reader. It is when the author approaches the larger affairs of District or City Planning, where the problems are more easily propounded in words, that his chapters are more illuminating.

Judging from these late chapters, (entitled F. Of a Neighborhood of Modest Homes; G. Of Village Improvement and a Small Park; H. Of Playgrounds; I. Of a Rural Park for a Large City; J. Of a System of Parks for a Large City; K. Of Metropolitan Parks; L. Of City Planning;) Mr. Child is much more interested in City Planning and what might be termed Landscape Engineering than in art of landscape design. He devotes two and one-half times as much space to the former as to the latter.

Nevertheless there is much of interest in the book—much to make the reader ponder—and the many sound quotations from leading authorities prove him to be a wide and discriminating reader.

The American Society of Landscape Architects undoubtedly is happy that he has kept within the fold and remains a soundly orthodox Olmstedian.

W. S. M.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

SAN DIEGO REALTY BOARD URGES WILD FLOWER PLANTING

By Mrs. Elizabeth Rue.

San Diego has been termed the "Jewel of the Southland" because of the natural setting. Why not assist in making it more beautiful by adding vivid coloring afforded by California wild flowers? For many miles in central California along the roadside brilliant hued *Eschscholtzia*—California poppy—our official state flower, and Lupine, with its beautiful foliage and lovely flora, fascinate the traveler. Both may be grown in San Diego county, as has been proven. A committee of women members of the San Diego Realty Board have been favored by Mr. Morley of Balboa Park with a piece of ground opposite the Yorick Theatre for the initial planting of the above flowers. It is hoped that property owners may be induced to plant their canyons and vacant lots to the seed. To that end the committee would gladly furnish half pound lots at wholesale prices.

It would be most attractive to have the flowers planted along some of our highways—and I believe there are people in San Diego who would be appreciative of the opportunity to do their part toward the beautification of our "Jewel City".

HOW TO PRESERVE FLOWERS

(Continued from page 11)

ting the boxes in an oven to hasten the drying results in failure. A greenhouse temperature of say about 50 degrees is suitable. A cold greenhouse temperature is too damp. I have seen good results from boxes kept on the living-room mantelshelf. The kitchen is usually too warm. The drying period varies according to the plants under treatment. It is advisable to have boxes for each kind of plant to be preserved.

A NEW PERENNIAL FOR SAN DIEGO

In 1926 Mr. David Fairchild sent me seeds of *Canarina Canariensis* from the Mediterranean region—a native of the Canary Islands. They developed a thrifty little plant some eighteen inches to two feet in height—a sort of semi-climber. I planted out three in my lath house, and this past summer they died down completely but the queer fleshy roots were alive.

In October they sprouted and the plants grew rapidly and are now three to five feet tall—a spraying sort of vine with each branch ending in a good sized bell-shaped flower in shades of buff and orange like an open Canterbury Bell. It belongs to the *Campanula* family and is an interesting and promising perennial though not very striking in appearance, but being a winter grower and bloomer makes it more desirable.

K. O. SESSIONS.

A JOE PYE WEED ADVENTURE

(This story has the names of fifty wild flowers growing in all parts of the country and is meant to stimulate protection of wild flowers.)

The hero of this little story is called Joe Pye Weed by his intimates, but his teacher knew him by the more dignified name of *Eupatorium purpurea*. He grew quite tall, ten feet perhaps, and as his home was from New Foundland to California southward he was quite a traveller. His friend New England Aster is found wherever Joe Pye Weed grows.

The country through which he travelled was very beautiful. In the early spring the Wild Plum blossoms shed their sweetness and in autumn the luscious Paw-Paw hung its fruit upon the low branches. The fruit of the Paw-Paw somewhat resembles the banana but it is much sweeter. Later in the fall the Persimmon ripened and like the Paw-Paw, it is not good to eat unless fully ripe.

Where the pathway was rough and stony it was carpeted with Stonecrop or Sedum, of which there are many kinds that grow among the rocks. At times on his travels Joe Pye Weed was accompanied by he Walking Leaf Fern, that throws out long fronds, the tips of which take root, and in this manner it is propagated.

Our hero Joé Pye Weed, carried with him Dutchman's Breeches for best wear, a Wild Four O'clock for a timepiece and a Rose Gentian for his buttonhole. In his lunch basket he took Wild Strawberries, which grew in great profusion. Thinking he might need something to liven things up, he took along Wild Ginger. Bloodroot, one of the early spring flowers, was there and was recognized as one of the old time cure-alls.

"When timid April smiles and weeps by fits—
Then dainty Bloodroot dons her pale green wrap,

And ventures forth in some warm sheltered nook

To sit and listen to some gurgling brook,
And rouse herself from her long nap."

The Wood Sorrel with its delicate yellow blossoms, and the Sheep Sorrel were taken as appetizers as they have a rather sour taste. For protection from the Green Dragon along the way, he took Venus' Flytrap, knowing its leaves would entrap flies and other insects. Being a wise traveller he took Horse Tail for good luck.

One day our hero had a thrilling adventure; he met a charming Spring Beauty and said to her:

"Little Spring Beauty I have found you at last,

As you slyly coquette with the sun."

The Spring Beauty was accompanied by a rag weed. Quite a contrast and no relation at all. The Spring Beauty had a lovely complexion and a few pink freckles. A more ap-

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propriate associate for such a lovely flower would have been the Common Blue Violet, so sweet and modest, or the Dogtooth Violet and his companions the Midland Violet and White Violet, all spring flowers.

As they walked along the roadway the fences were hung with Wild Cucumber, a vine that bears a lovely greenish yellow fruit. Nearby was found the Common Pig Weed. The Hedge Bindweed or Wild Morning Glory reached up by stem and branch and hung its blue and pink corneopias everywhere.

Wanting to make his beautiful companion a present, it was necessary for Joe Pye Weed to draw on his Four Mints. You see he was very wealthy. The Mints were the Purple Bergamots, Hairy Bergamots, Ground Ivy and Skull Cap. The Bergamots furnished a sweet perfume and the Ground Ivy and Skull Cap a refreshing odor, so they were much refreshed along the way.

As they pursued their journey, they purchased Lady's Slippers, Showy, Pink, and Small, so a selection could be made. A wreath of Wild Hops was woven and yards of Wild Carrot or Queen's Lace was gathered for the Spring Beauty's adornment.

In the distance they heard the ringing of fairy bells. The Virginia Cowslip, being the Bluebell, one of a large and wonderful family, and the Bellwort or Yellow Hanging Bell, a member of the lily family.

"The bluebell is the bell ringer,

You may not hear the strikes,

But still he rings the wedding chimes,

For all the flower folks."

They soon came to an arbor formed of the Flowering Dogwood, which flung its petals over them like snow. They were much charmed to find a congregation assembled with Jack-in-the-Pulpit holding forth.

"Jack-in-the-Pulpit preaches today,

Under the green trees, just over the way.

Squirrel and song sparrow high on their perch,

Near the sweet lily bells ringing for church."

The Skunk Cabbage sat close at hand and had it not been for the disagreeable odor, would have been welcome as the first spring flower to arrive. You may be sure the preacher began at Adam and Eve, an orchis, in his discourse.

Among the congregation were many noted members of the Wild Flower Society. There was *Trillium Grandiflorus*. The name is derived from the fact that all parts are arranged in threes—three leaves, three petals and three parted stamens. The Wild *Geranium* or Crane's Bill was also there. The scarlet dress of the garden variety was not worn to church, but a more modest one of lavender. The Water Leaf, a rather plain blossom, was noticed dressed in a washed-out color. Sandwort was an entire stranger in the crowd and no one took any notice of him.

Wild Verbena was most charming in pink and green and sat next to Wild Phlox, akin to the polemonium family, but goes by the name of Sweet William. The Spiderwort, in pale blue, could hardly keep her eyes open as the flower closes at noon. *Nepatica*, one of the beautiful children of the springtime, was with delicate *Anemone*, the wind flower. The Columbine was much dressed up, with many frills in various colors.

"I met a little lady,

A stranger here, mayhap,

She wore a gown of green,

She wore a scarlet cap.

Graceful was her figure,

Her manner very fine,

A fairy, airy creature,

Her name was Columbine."

The Mistletoe was seated in a back seat, as it is only at Christmas time he is asked to take part. It is a parasite, having no roots. One delicate plant that could not bear to be pushed about, the Sensitive Plant, drooped whenever it was touched. The Partridge Pea stood outside for fear the rattle of the pods would disturb the congregation, and the three *Smilax* children were left at home for the same reason. The *Smilax Herbacea* is covered with many green briars, and the other two are quite sticky (as children often are), *Smilax Glauca* and *Smilax Rotundifolia*.

A collection was taken up by the Golden Rod and much gold was collected by the yellow heads. A similar amount having been taken, in the spring when the Cotton Wood Catkins shed their silver shower.

As it was getting late, the Sunflower turned

toward the west and hung his head while the yellow torches of the Goldenrod were lighted along the way as the congregation dispersed.

"And in the evening everywhere,

Along the roadside up and down

I see the golden torches flame

Like lighted street lamps in the town.

I think the butterfly and bee

From distant meadows coming back,

Are quite contented when they see,

These lamps along the homeward track."

—MRS. PAUL BRIGGS,

Kansas City, Mo.

FINDS PROFITS RAISING CACTUS ON TEN-ACRE FARM IN TEXAS

AUSTIN, Texas, Oct. 29.—A ten-acre cactus farm near Austin, Texas, with a hundred or more varieties of cacti, some of which are very rare, is claimed by Edgar Hall of the Hyde Park Floral company to be the largest exclusive cacti farm in the world. Mr. Hall also claims the honor of being the world's largest cacti shipper. The plants are used for ornamental purposes and for prickly hedges.

This collection of cacti was characterized by Chief Inspector Scholl of the United States department of agriculture, as the "finest collection of cacti" he had ever seen.

The Hyde Park Floral company won the only medal given at the national flower show held at Detroit, Mich., in March for cacti groups. This group contained 50 varieties.

Cacti grown in this 10-acre farm range from the common pin-cushion variety to the rare spiral-shaped delicately colored little plants seldom found on the north side of the Rio Grande river. One little plant, the *Astrophytum Asteriari*, was discovered for the first time in the United States by Mr. Hall's son near the Rio Grande river in January. He has since found 200 plants in that vicinity. This little thorny cactus is valued at \$10 for each plant. It is a squat little cactus hardly as large as a silver dollar.

All Kinds and Shapes

Tall cacti, short cacti, round cacti, barrel cacti, big cacti, little cacti and almost any other shaped cacti ever found are to be seen in this sticky unusual garden of the south.

The cacti plants thrive as well in the cold northern climate as they do in their warm native lands where they are accustomed to the blazing sun. Very little moisture is needed to keep the plants in perfect condition. If the grower forgets to water his bowl of cacti, he can be assured that the little plants will continue to lift their head to the sun just as bravely as if watered by the finest stream, Mr. Hall said.

The cacti is not only green all the year round, but they bloom profusely in red, yellow and delicate pink blossoms. After the flower has faded deep red seed pods appear against the colorful green of the plant making a delightful combination of beauty.

The cacti does not like to be coddled. It grows as luxuriantly in the hardest rock as it does in a bed of fine black dirt, however, it seems to prefer rock or semi-rock and sand.

The smallest specimen of cacti which Mr. Hall has in his "flower garden" is the *Mamillaria Micomeris*. Some of these plants he has growing in a thimble. The largest of the collection is the Arizona tree cactus, which grows to an immense height, over-shadowing all of the other varieties.

The common prickly pear has become one of the best sellers. The plant is always one of a bowl group. It is hardy and will grow almost under any conditions. Mr. Hall has both the purple and the green varieties.

Settles Muddy Water

The broad thick leaf of the prickly pear is used in Texas to settle muddy waters when they are unfit for drinking. The leaves should be burned to remove the long and short thick thorns, Mr. Hall said, and then swished back and forth in the pitcher of muddy water. The water settles almost immediately.

Mixed bowls of cacti are the most popular of all arrangements for ornamental purposes. Thousands of bowls of cacti are shipped from Austin each year to customers in the north, east and west. The shipments have gone to Canada, to New York, to Chicago and other cities, but none have been shipped to Mexico.

One of the most popular plants, which is sold as a cacti, although it does not belong to that family, is the Magee (Maguey—Ed.) plant, from which pulque is made. The little plant grows to be a big bedding plant if given room. It makes a unique and pretty pot plant with its spiked blue-green leaves and small shoots multiplying at the side. "Pulque" has been termed "liquid fire" by the Mexican consumer.

The barrel cactus is the most popular of all cactus in the desert. It may be called the "life-saver," for if one knows its secret there is no danger of death by thirst when lost on a desert trail. The cactus grows about three feet high and is one and one-half inches in diameter. The thirsty traveler cuts the top and makes a number of slashes in the pulp in the center causing a clear water to come to the top. Many a life has been saved by this cactus, while other persons have lain down to die by this fountain of water.

The prickly pear while used in the United States for ornamental purposes has still another use. A delicious salad may be made from the tender young leaves. These are shredded and served with oil after being boiled a short time.—San Diego Union.

SPLENDID PILLAR ROSES

Rose pillars in the garden are exceedingly decorative. As a support for the Roses, larch poles are best and if the butts are charred or well creosoted they will last for some years. If they can be obtained with a few inches of

the old branches still remaining it will greatly facilitate the tying in of the growths and a natural arrangement. Another advantage of growing climbing Roses as pillars is that they take up comparatively little space and are therefore suitable for small gardens.

In making a selection of the best Roses for growing in this form it is well to ignore the rampant varieties as they soon become untidy and it is impossible to tie in all the shoots to the pole without undue crowding. Consequently I do not recommend the use of the wichuraianas, such as Dorothy Perkins, Excelsa, Emily Gray, etc. They are better trained over wide arches or a pergola. Many of the climbing "sports" may be grown as pillar Roses, but as they tend to become "leggy" if grown in this way, it is good practice to plant a dwarf Rose of the same name on the other side of the post and let the shoots hide the base. Climbing Mme. Edouard Herriot, a climbing "sport" has all the good qualities of the dwarf form. Other "sports" that might be used are the climbing varieties of Caroline Testout, Chateau de Clos Vougeot, General McArthur, Irish Fireflake, Lady Hillingdon, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Mme. Butterfly, Mme. Melanie Soupert, Paul Lede and Sunburst. That fine old climber, Mme. Alfred Carrire is also excellent as a pillar Rose; it has shapely white blooms with pink shading, is a continuous bloomer and sweetly scented.

Climbing Roses for Summer and Autumn

Others I can recommend are Allen Chandler, a modern Rose with large scarlet, semi-double flowers produced in clusters; it is very free and perpetual. Another newcomer is Chastity, with shapely white buds opening to semi-double flowers and nicely perfumed; unfortunately it bears only one crop of blooms. The same remark applies to the lovely Lady Gwendoline Colvin, but although it blooms only once in a season, the period of flowering is early and fairly long. Paul's Lemon Pillar (summer only) has large, full, fragrant blooms often fine enough for exhibiting. Souvenir de Claudius Denoyel is admirable in every way. It produces continually large, fragrant crimson flowers of good shape. Phyllis Bide requires a little coaxing to reach a height of 6 to 8 feet, but by light pruning and tying in the continuation laterals I have succeeded in making it do so and very pretty it is with its light sprays of bloom of pale gold, flushed with carmine-pink; it is always in bloom. Lady Waterlow, Paul's Scarlet Climber, Mermaid, The Beacon, Rosemary and Thelma also make good pillars.

Some very vigorous dwarf varieties do well as pillars and are far more floriferous in this way than when cut back annually. I refer to Hugh Dickson, J. B. Clark, J. G. Glassford and others. Semi-climbers such as Florence Haswell Veitch, Bardou Job, Sarah Bernhardt and Effective can also be used to advantage.

—B. W. Price in Popular Gardening.



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